THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal was not found viable since the coconut oil as a cooking medium is acceptable to the people of Kerala origin only and it would therefore not be viable and feasible to supply the same to a very miniscule section of the society elsewhere in the country.

The proposal has, however, been forwarded to the Southern States like Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and U.T. of Pondicherry for consideration.

[*Translation*]

Barauni Unit of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited

*502. SHRI SURYA NARAYAN SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of days when the Barauni unit of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited remained closed during 1988, 1989 and 1990 separately together with the reasons therefor and the loss suffered by the Corporation as a result thereof; and

(b) the steps proposed to be taken for its modernisation to ensure smooth functioning and increase its production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTAMOHAN): (a) The Barauni unit remained closed for 154 days in 1988, for 221 days in 1989 and for 150 days in 1990 over and above the normal period of shut down. The loss in production of urea as a result was 79,127 tonnes, 97,086 tonnes and 28,687 tonnes, respectively.

The main reasons for the shutdown were interrupted and unstable power supply from the State grid, frequent breakdown of equipment and machinery due to the ageing of the plant and low productivity of labour in setting right breakdowns etc.

(b) There is a proposal from the Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation to revamp the Barauni unit on a limited scale to extend the life of the plant for the next few years and increase its capacity utilisation, as part of the plan of the Corporation to improve the performance of its operating units.

[*English*]

Cultural Invasion by Pakistan TV/ Radio

*503. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be plased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to a news item captioned "Bracing up to stop pak TV invasion" appearing in the Hindustan Times dated July 11, 1991, highlighting the efforts made by people of Western Rajasthan to brace themselves up against the cultural invasion by Pakistan TV/Radio, by installing dish antennae; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) The Government have seen the news item captioned "Bracing up to stop Pak TV invasion" which appeared in the Hindustan Times in its issue dated July 16, 1991.

(b) The Government fully recognise the need to strengthen TV/Radio service especially in the border areas. Within the constraints of financial resources a number of steps have been initiated to strengthen TV/Radio service in the border areas of Rajasthan.